



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture
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WEEK ENDING: March 26, 2017
RELEASED: March 27, 2017

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER

The week oscillated between warm and wet to dry and cool two separate times last week, as early springtime Pacific systems moved through the State.

Rain totals were up to a quarter of an inch along the southern coast, increasing gradually to nearly two inches near San Francisco. The southern valley saw one-and-a-half inches, increasing northward to four inches near Napa. An inch was the norm along the southern Sierra foothills, increasing northward to three inches in northern foothills. The Sierras saw two to three inches of liquid-equivalent precipitation, with snow falling above 7,000 feet. A combination of warm temperatures and rain led to a substantial decrease in the snowpack except at the highest elevations in the northern Sierras. Lodgepole, at 6,700 feet in the southern Sierras, remains the thickest snowpack with a report of nearly six feet of snowdepth.

Temperature highs were in the 40s to 60s in the mountains, 60s to 70s in the valley and along the coast, and 70s to 90s in the desert. The temperature lows were in the 20s to 30s in the mountains, 30s to 50s in the valley, 40s to 50s along the coast, and 40s to the 60s in the desert.

FIELD CROPS

Winter forage crops were maturing well. Some growers were starting to harvest silage. Spotty lodging was noted due to the heavy rain and wind. Corn seed was being received in advance of planting. **Cotton** preparation work was almost done for planting.

FRUIT CROPS

Field work in vineyards continued with pruning, tying, berm sanitation, and brush shredding. Bud break was progressing in vineyards. **Cherries** and late varieties of stone fruit continued to bloom. Reports of heavy rain and hail may have knocked off petals and affected the bloom. **Kiwifruit** were being shipped to foreign and domestic marketplaces. The citrus harvest was slowed due to the rain. Late navel **orange** harvest was underway in some areas. **Navel oranges, Mandarins, lemons, Star Ruby grapefruit**, and late harvest Finger **limes** were being packed and exported for foreign and domestic marketplaces. Valencia orange harvest started. Orange groves were being hedge-rowed and skirted. Seedless **tangerine** groves continued to be netted to prevent cross pollination by bees during the coming bloom. **Blueberries** were blooming. **Strawberry** fields continued to thrive. Previously planted onions continued to progress well.

NUT CROPS

Almond bloom continued to slow down. Almonds and **pistachios** continued to be packed and exported mainly to foreign marketplaces. Some **walnut** trees were blooming. Bee colonies continued to be moved into nut and stone fruit orchards for pollination.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Fresno County, **garlic** and **onions** have solid growth, due to excess moisture. In Madera County, **tomato** bed preparation was ongoing and over half of the tomatoes have been planted. In Tulare County, new fields were being prepared for spring planting as weather permitted. **Cucumbers** were being planted under hot caps.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and dryland pasture quality continued to improve with all the recent rainfall and intervening warm weather. Some cattle ranchers have increased their herd size to take advantage of the improved forage conditions.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 03/26/2017											
STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION 1/			
	Average Week Ending 03/26/2017	Departure from Normal 2/	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year 2/	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season 2/	Normal Year 2/
					January 1 - 03/26/2017	January 1 - 03/26/2017	July 1 - 03/26/2017	Week Ending 03/26/2017	July 1 - 03/26/2017	July 1 - 03/26/2017	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days 3/ - -	-- Inches of Precipitation - -			
North Coast											
Eureka WFO	53	4	63	41	1	0	106	2.72	47.77	32.32	38.10
Ukiah	54	1	66	37	21	0	83	2.16	46.65	34.65	38.90
Santa Rosa	54	-1	64	37	12	0	75	2.62	54.26	27.87	31.01
Napa State Hospital	56	1	66	39	21	0	65	3.34	40.78	23.67	26.46
Central Coast											
San Francisco	58	4	65	50	20	0	67	1.82	28.69	18.12	20.11
San Jose	59	1	69	49	46	13	62	1.04	16.52	13.24	15.08
Salinas	57	2	67	47	29	0	47	0.70	13.02	11.39	12.91
Monterey	56	2	64	48	13	0	65	1.88	22.98	17.79	20.35
King City Ag	57	1	71	43	34	1	43	0.39	14.01	10.97	12.30
Paso Robles	56	2	69	38	25	0	48	0.38	12.95	11.88	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	55	1	68	37	24	0	81	2.71	41.94	28.23	33.52
Red Bluff	56	1	68	37	29	0	71	1.97	27.10	20.79	24.07
Willows 6W	55	1	70	37	18	0	59	1.94	24.00	16.68	19.03
Oroville	58	3	68	40	37	0	68	2.47	29.71	25.12	28.75
Marysville	57	0	70	40	27	13	63	2.55	25.97	19.26	22.07
Sacramento	57	1	69	40	27	0	64	2.16	29.99	15.90	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	59	3	69	42	41	0	64	1.90	19.79	12.04	13.84
Modesto	60	2	73	43	78	26	55	1.20	15.29	11.28	13.12
Merced Macready	57	1	71	40	26	0	54	1.01	14.52	10.82	12.50
Madera	58	1	74	43	68	6	51	0.50	13.63	10.13	11.94
Fresno	60	3	76	45	94	8	46	0.66	13.53	9.61	11.23
Lemoore NAS	57	0	74	35	46	8	41	0.47	9.15	6.77	7.89
Visalia	58	1	74	41	71	13	40	0.24	9.75	9.49	11.03
Bakersfield	62	4	76	43	134	31	41	0.12	7.39	5.53	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas	44	4	64	25	0	0	89	0.38	11.31	8.69	12.13
Mount Shasta	44	2	56	28	0	0	87	4.15	50.63	33.03	39.16
Blue Canyon	38	-2	51	28	0	0	86	4.62	100.90	56.41	66.36
Yosemite Valley	46	-1	59	33	0	0	59	2.98	56.94	32.15	37.73
South Coast											
Santa Maria	57	3	70	39	39	0	55	0.69	16.91	12.41	14.01
Santa Barbara	58	1	71	45	9	17	43	0.76	23.71	15.68	16.93
Oxnard NWS	58	1	67	45	61	25	42	0.26	21.61	14.35	15.62
Riverside	61	2	78	44	172	74	38	0.15	12.81	9.12	10.22
Los Angeles	60	1	67	50	64	116	42	0.06	15.82	11.98	13.15
San Diego	63	3	72	53	146	153	39	0.07	11.92	9.48	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop	55	6	80	30	5	0	29	0.08	7.92	4.25	5.02
Daggett	65	6	89	44	167	47	20	0.00	4.22	3.75	4.17
Lancaster ATC	57	4	79	34	39	0	33	0.07	6.51	6.77	7.40
Thermal	73	7	95	47	379	231	22	0.00	3.98	3.34	3.53
Blythe	72	6	97	48	378	204	21	0.00	4.65	3.79	4.02
Imperial CA	73	8	96	49	421	232	17	0.00	2.37	2.84	2.96

1/ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice).
2/ Normal periods 1970-2000 used in Departure From Normal calculations.
3/ Total number of days with precipitation events this season.
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